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GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1899-1900
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# File No. 158

# Serial Nos.

# Papers Filed.

*Month*_____

SUBJECT.

Re acquisition of a house adjoining the Srinivasa Mandiram, Bangalore city

PREVIOUS REFERENCES. LATER REFERENCES.

Misc I- 168-1904

24-5-00
911

To

Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, K. C. S. I.,
Dewan in Mysore,
Mysore.

Sir,

In expressing my deep gratitude to you for all the kindness you have shewn to Srinivasa Mandiram till now, and feeling at the same time how kind you are personally to myself I take this as one more opportunity seeing how the times are changing, to acquaint you with some of my difficulties in connection with the Mandiram work.

2. It is indeed Gods grace that, notwithstanding many hard days and bad seasons, odds and difficulties, changes and alterations and added to these the persistent rumours that were

set afloat Re your retirement, that you are still ruling us with unabated love and Charity, — the two patent features of your distinguished — administration May you live long and may you rule us for many, many more years to come, is not only my humble supplication, but it is the universal prayer of all in the Country! In no Country has — any other Statesman earned the reputation and the name you have earned in this Province. In fact Mysore owes its present greatness to you; and, as such, though there is material enough which enables one to record — many boons you have conferred on its people, still it is too much that I in my humble sphere should — insignificantly attempt to say anything as to how the Country has been benefitted by your generous and Liberal rule. I can only say that everything

that is great and memorable is yours
In all important works of public
utility we see your hand and
originality. The well-being and the
spread of educational benefactions and
the impetus given to Sanscrit learning,
are all due to you. The present
flourishing condition of the several
Oriental institutions even, is also
due to you.

3. While the prospects in general
in the Country are so pleasing, I regret
that in the individual case of the
Mandaram, I am not spared the
constant anxiety and fear of its
Collapse; though it has stood to its
its work for the last twelve years,
depending mainly on the hope alone
& the expectation of the donors
of its days. These days have fallen

to come and the prospects of the work are becoming gloomy day by day. The institution should have told its history of extinction long ago had it not been to the fatherly look you have bestowed on it. But however, the responsibility of keeping up the work to a degree neither very high nor very low, the difficulties that I have undergone and am undergoing to maintain its efficiency, the many failures that I have met with in creating for it a stability and my own decreasing strength and many other circumstances, have combined together to dump my enthusiasm, that I see no way, at all, of immediate relief is not sought at your giving hands just now. The best part of my life - twenty years has been spent in the founding and rearing up of this institution; that there are not many days before me to think of a change of life or ...

taking myself some other calling by which I can end this existence. A sum not less than Rupees Thirty thousand roughly speaking has been spent on this institution and though such a large amount is spent, it still lives from hand to mouth and its permanancy is no where, while its encumbrances and wants are daily increasing. Every moment, I am afraid of its death.

4. The actual cost of the institution comes to Rs 200/- every month and for this only Rs. 75/- is received from the Government, with many conditions imposed on me. Add to this the yearly cost of Rs. 500/- nearly (not to speak the cost of the annual repairs) to cover the expenses of the Mandiram Utsavam and the granting of honorariums to different Vidwans, who are specially invited to deliver

lectures and make the Utsavam a faith-kindling and soul ennobling occasion, whereby the hundreds that keep the attendance are enabled to really learn something instructive and advantageous - morally and spiritually, which affords them better opportunities to know each other well and see what the ambition - Purushartha - is, amidst the many troubles and turmoils in the battle of this life. It is a great pity, you were not present at any time to bare witness to a holy gathering of the kind; but you may be pleased to know as to what the proceedings are by referring the writer to such gentlemen as Messrs Jaghirdar Krishna moorthi Rao and Ramarusa Chetlu, &c.

5. The work of the Mandrum is three-fold. First and the foremost is the Mandiram proper - Temple itself, specially consecrated as a

Divya-desa or Abhimanasthala, — Wherein Theertham and Prasadam are accepted by the Brahmin Community in general. It is this privelege very unique among Mysore temples, except a few noted places of worship such as Nanjungud and Melukote, &c., that has made the Mandiram not only a sanctified one, but a place worthy of adoration by His Holiness Sri Srungeri Swami and Sri Thothadri Swami of — Varamamalai and other Matadhi-pathies and Acharyas. That such a place which can be likened to a watershed in a desert should dwindle down for want of a spare grant is a matter very heart-rending to me. Secondly Comm. the Orphanage

and here - many Orphans and students have been fed and educated that the institution can put down to its credit that several of them have now gone into the world with a passport to eke out an honest living. A grant of Rs: 25/- is given to this department, but I am so bound by rules and conditions, - that I am held responsible to feed 10 boys. This arrangement has brought me to the stage of either refusing the receiving of this grant or of requesting you to place no limitations of feeding a definite number, which I cannot at all maintain under the prices now - ruling in the market for the necessaries of life Three - hundred seers of rice is wanted every month and this single item is enough, I believe to give you some idea as to what would be the cost of

other things wanted and what would be the Charge of the establishment that should be maintained to serve this food to the boys as well as other inmates and Visanthrees. Ie To satisfy yourself if these circumstances are really such as I represent, I only solicit you to call for the monthly statement of feeding I submit every month to the Honorary Secretary. More than this I am unable to say about the Mandiram proper — Temple and the Orphanage. Thirdly, there is the Free Library and the Reading Room and of these I shall not speak much, but only quote hereunder for your information the observations made by two recent visitors, Viz:- I am sure it is among

to impress you favorably: —

Remarks by the Resident

"I visited the Srinivasa Mandiram Institution yesterday – in company with Mr. Harris – Messrs Rangayyam Iyengar, Inspector General of Police and Srinivasa Iyengar, retired to Government, happening to meet me on the road also accompanied me. Mr. G. Jagalacharlu's matters seem to me, so far as it has gone, of some public utility, and has probably earned a claim to the support of those Hindus who can afford to contribute. I understand that an application has been submitted to the Mysore Government for an increase to the existing grant of Rs. 300/- per annum and they will doubtless consider and decide whether the institution is one to which more assistance can systematically be given – without in any way undermining..

Mr. G. Pala Charlu's philanthropic and public spirited efforts, I see no reason why the Reading Room should not be to a great extent self-supporting - if not by fees at least by subscriptions from well to do sympathizers in the Pettah."

Sd/ Donald Robertson,
Resident.

March 24-1900.

Remarks by the Reverend T.E. Slater of the London Missionary Society

"On returning lately from England, I paid an early visit to the Srinivasa Mandiram Free Library, having taken an interest in it for many years, as well as enjoyed the friendship of its Charitable Founder, Mr. G. Pala Charlu. I was pleased to find that considerable improvements had taken place in the

accommodation of the Reading Room, which must add to the Comfort of the many readers who daily avail themselves of this privilege. The long table that now runs down the room is liberally supplied with all kinds of newspapers and periodicals — English and Indian while I noticed also that several new and valuable works had been added to the Library shelves. Mr. Appalacharlu evidently keeps his Library eye open, for he makes from time to time excellent selection of some of the latest standard books, both Western and Eastern. Indeed one of the charms of this Library is the gathering together, in the most friendly fashion, the best thoughts of the master minds of different lands and races; thus allowing the old and the new, the East and the West, instead of wrangling, to unite

Acknowledge one another's merits.
The library is a centre of mental
activity; and Mr. G. Jalachariu
is to be congratulated on the
success which he has achieved."

Sd/ T. E. Slater,
London Missionary Society.

Bangalore,
5th March 1900

Remarks also by Professor Mr. M
Rangacharya, M. A. of Madras.

Bangalore City, 30th June 1896

Srimati A. G. Jalachariu having
desired that I should express my
opinion regarding the work of
Charity he has undertaken in
connection with the Ananda
Mandiram here, I have very great
pleasure in stating that I consider
the work of the Mandiram highly,

useful and worthy of all encouragement from the public. The temple is maintained as a model of cleanliness and the Library is worthily made up and seems to be well used. The Orphanage stands in need of further development, and I have no doubt that Mr. Gopalachariar's enthusiasm in this laudable cause will enable him one day to see the Srinivasa Iraudiram growing a worthy centre of spiritual and intellectual illumination to orphan boys and girls of the Hindu Community.

Sd/ M. Rangachar.

6. It is an unfortunate circumstance so far as this institution is concerned that Mr. Srinivasa Charlu, R. B., is reported to be retiring by the end of next month. It is the constant representations that I have been making to him verbally, and otherwise

to bring the whole situation of the Srinivasa Mandiram to your generous notice, — that prevented me of addressing this letter to you earlier, and delayed even, the mentioning of these facts to you up to this critical time in the history of this my humble institution. Mr Srinivasa Charlu is an Officer that has a perfect knowledge of the Mandiram's entire work and its finances, and if the matter is not taken up now by you in his time, before you permit him to retire I think I should feel assured myself that the fate of the Srinivasa Mandiram is sealed for ever.

Under these circumstances, I humbly pray you, noble Sir, to

confer a lasting permanancy on the Mandiram by the grant of an independent and adequate grant not covered by any restrictions and to free me from conditions already imposed, which I cannot maintain without running into debts; and allowing me at the same time to inscribe your good name on a Memorial slab to be placed in a conspecuous place, so that posterity may remember with gratitude for ever the good you have done this institution.

I beg leave to remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient —
and grateful servant,
C. Sankaran Nair

The Srinivasa Mandiram,
Bangalore, 2nd May, 1900

NR as per Durbar order

No 315
Inwk F 38-93

OFFICE OF GOVT. OF MYSORE,

MUZRAI DEPARTMENT,

The 26th August ~~189~~ 1901

ENDORSEMENT granted to Mr. a. Gopalacharlu, Srinivasa Mandiram - Bangalore City

in reply to his Petition Registered No. 911 dated 22nd May 1900 - in re the acquisition of a house adjoining the Mandiram.

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Mr. Gopalacharlu

~~Petitioner~~ is informed that it would be well if he collects some subscriptions and forms a Fund for this purpose -

By Order,

Durbar order

24/8/01

Dy ~~Secretary~~ Secretary

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